GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:617
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
RURAL HEALTH GUIDE
V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report on village Health Guide Scheme has already been presented to the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken on the report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Important findings of the Committee are : (1) the original objective of the Village Health Guide Scheme has remained mostly unfulfilled. The major objective of providing a functional link between the community and the health care systems has not been achieved; (2) Most of the State Governments who are responsible for operating this Scheme have lost confidence in it; (3) The Committee too is of the considered views that it may not be possible, at this stage, to reactivate the present scheme and make it useful for promoting health and family welfare programmes; (4) The Committee has noted that States have tended to ignore the presence of the VHG in their State and have not utilized their services for promotion of health and family welfare programmes; (5) The Panchayati Raj institutions also have not yet been able to make use of the services of the VHGs in a significant manner.

(c): Many of the State Governments are not in favour of the Village Health Guide Scheme.Accordingly, it has been decided to discontinue the scheme with effect from 1st January, 2002. Arrears due to State Governments will be met.